

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing the claims. The Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, and respectfully submit that the claims may be allowable for other reasons.

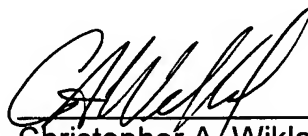
Prior to issuance of this case, the Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendment to the claims be entered without withdrawing the case from issue. Claims that had previously been withdrawn responsive to a restriction requirement were indicated allowable in the Office Action dated September 19, 2006. Accordingly, the Applicants herein reinstate all claims as allowed. Rejoined claims are listed in the Notice of Allowability. Entering this amendment does not require any substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Patent Office.

In the event additional fees are due as a result of this amendment, you are hereby authorized to charge such payment to Deposit Account No. 07-1897.

DATED this 18th day of December, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

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